

**REMARKS**

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application and indicating that claims 1-9 are allowable. Moreover, the Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 10 and 11 contain allowable subject matter, and would be allowed if amended to overcome certain §112 rejections.

Additionally, the Applicants respectfully notes that the Information Disclosure Statements (IDS) have not been initialed and returned. The Applicants respectfully requests acknowledgment of previously filed IDS of May 20, 2002, June 14, 2002, February 6, 2003, April 11, 2003, June 6, 2003, June 30, 2003, and July 18, 2003.

**Disposition of Claims**

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 7 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1 and 7.

**Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 112**

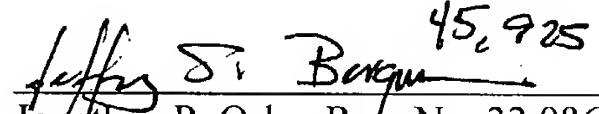
Claims 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite. Claims 10 and 11 have been amended in this reply in view of this rejection. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed. Specifically, claims 10 and 11 have been amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for providing suggestions for appropriate corrections. Both of the Examiner's suggested amendments have been included, which is

believed to overcome the antecedent basis issues raised by the Examiner. In light of the amendments, withdrawal of the §112 rejection of claims 10 and 11 is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 08228.019001).

Respectfully submitted,

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